

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 SAJ-01 EURE-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 USIA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 NEA-10 SAM-01 /099 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8907

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSH KINSHASHA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US XB

SUBJ: RESURGENCE OF SOVIET MEDIA CAMPAING ON U.S. AFRICAN POLICY

REF: MOSCOW 14087, MOSCOW 14257

1. SUMMARY. VITUPERATIVE SOVIET MEDIA CAMPAIGN AGAINST U.S. POLICY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA IN GENERAL AND SECRETARY'S SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY IN PARTICULAR HAS BEGUN TO SHOW ITS TEETH AGAIN AFTER BEING LEASHED OVER WEEKEND OF SEPT 11-12. CAMPAING STILL HAS A LONG WAY TO GO TO REACH HEIGHTS (OR DEPTHS) REFLECTED IN PRE SEPT . 11 COMMENTARY (REFTELS) BUT ARTICLE IN WEEKLY NOVOYE VREMYA (SEPT 17) IS STEP IN THAT DIRECTION.
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END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING EXTREMELY CRITICAL COVERAGE IN SOVIET CENTRAL PRESS CULMINATING IN ARTICLES IN PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA BY AUTHORITATIVE POLITICAL COLUMNISTS YURIY ZHUKOV AND VLADIMIR KUDRYAVTSE, EMBASSY NOTED A RELATIVE LULL IN SOVIET MEDIA CAMPAIGN. THIS WAS PARTICULARLY NOTICIEABLE OVER WEEKEND OF SEPT 10-11. MEDIA COVERAGE CONTINUED LIGHT OT MODERATE UP TO SEPT-17 WITH NOTABLE EXCEPTION OF YU. KIRPICHINOV ARTICLE IN SEPT. 15 SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA (NOT CONSIDERED PART OF "CENTRAL PRESS" BY EMBASSY) AND V. TYURKIN'S "COMMENTATOR'S COLUMN" IN SEPT. 16 PRAVDA.

3. HOWEVER, WEEKEND OF SEPT 18-19 HAS SHOWN INCREASE IN VOLUME AND RISE IN TONE OF ANTI-U.S. POLICY COVERAGE IN CENTRAL PRESS, ALTHOUGH COVERAGE STOPS SHORT OF LENGTHY, SIGNED ARTICLES SUCH AS PRECEDED SEPT 10-11 LULL. STILL, WEEKEND TREND IS TOWARD MORE CRITICAL COVERAGE AND IS MARKED BY YU. ZHUKOV'S "RETORT" (REPLIKA) IN SEPT 18 PRAVDA IN WHICH ZHUKOV USES PM VORSTER'S COMMENTS TO LINK U.S. WITH S. AFRICA IN AN ANTI-COMMUNIST CRUSADE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. ZHUKOV ALSO NARRATED A SHARPLY CRITICAL TV ROUNDUP ON SEPT 18. ON SOUTHERN AFRICA AND U.S. POLICY THERE. SEPT 18 KRASNAYA ZVEYDA CARRIES A SHARP, TASS LUSAKA ARTICLE WHICH REFLECTS WHAT APPEARS TO BE ANEMERGING, SIMPLIFIED PROGAGANDA LINE ON SECRETRAY'S TRIP AND U.S. POLICY, TO WIT: SECRTRY'S GOAL IS TO FOIST ON AFRICA A SOLUTION TO RHODESIA-NAMIBIA PROBLEM ADVANTAGEOUS TO U.S. ; U.S.-BRITISH PLAN IS TO SET UP PRO-WESTERN, PUPPET REGIMES IN RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA IN WHICH PRIVILEGES OF WHITE MINORITY WOULD BE INSURED BY FINANCIAL GUARANTEES AND END RESULT WOULD BE WEAKENING AND SUPPRESSION OF NATIONAL-LIBERATION MOVEMENT. CONCESSIONS ARE NOW EXPECTED, IN OTHER WORDS. BUT THEY ARE ALSO EXPECTED TO BE "INSIGNIFICANT", OR RATHER OBNOXIOUS SINCE THEY WILL CONSOLIDATE RACISM, REPRIEVE IT ON ITS DEATHBED.

4. LAST BUT NOT LEAST IN RESURGENT MEDIA CAMPAING IS D.VOL'SKIY'S TWO PAGE ARTICLE IN SEPT 17 ISSUE OF WEEKLY NEWS MAGAZINE NOVOYE VREMYA. VOL'SKIY COMPARES PRESENT ROUND OF SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY WITH PREVIOUS M.E. ROUND AND FINDS THAT END RESULT OF LATTER WAS DEATH AND DESTRUCTION IN LEBANON AND A STREGTHENING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RATHER THAN A LOWERING OF M.E. TENSION.
MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

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